



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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Agency for Toxic Substances
and Disease Registry
Atlanta GA 30333

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Ms. Jane Mitchell
Colorado Department of Health and Environment
DCEED-EE-A3
4300 Cherry Creek Drive, South
Denver, CO 80246

Ms. Bonnie Lavelle
Environmental Protection Agency
Mail Code 8EPR-SR
999 18th Street
Denver, CO 80202

Dear Ms. Mitchell and Ms. Lavelle:

The purpose of this letter is as a followup to our recent telephone conversations regarding confidentiality of data related to the VBI70 site in Denver. ATSDR maintains all of the VBI70 data on a password-protected computer. This computer system is monitored and maintained by both ATSDR and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. I am the only person who has access to this computer. The soil data has been shared with an ATSDR employee for the sole purpose of conducting geographical plotting and with another ATSDR employee who is conducting health investigations at the site. Both employees adhere to the Agency's guidelines for confidentiality of personal data.

I have shared the data with one ATSDR contractor, Eastern Research Group (ERG) in Boston, Massachusetts. As part of their contract agreement with ATSDR, ERG also follows ATSDR's confidentiality guidelines when handling the data.

In addition, ATSDR provided the VBI70 data to Ms. Terry Taylor with CDPHE's lead prevention program, and to Ms. Celia VanDerLoop with the city and county of Denver. In a telephone conversation with Ms. VanDerLoop on March 7, 2001, she indicated that the data had been purged from the city and county of Denver's computer system.

I hope that this information addresses your concerns. If you have any questions regarding this issue, please feel free to contact me (404-639-0639).

Sincerely,

David Mellard

David Mellard, Ph.D.
Division of Health Assessment and Consultation

cc: Dr. Sven Rodenbeck
Dr. Sharon Williams-Fleetwood
Mr. Chris Poulet